



# Town of Barnstable Regulatory Services

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## Conservation Division

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## Vista Pruning Guidelines

Vista pruning in these guidelines refers to the selective pruning of trees in order to improve a view through a pre-determined vista corridor/s.

Vista pruning applies to work beyond the work limit line, i.e., on a coastal bank or within 50' of the edge of wetland. Vista pruning requires an Order of Conditions or a Determination of Applicability which conveys approval by the Conservation Commission.

*No* work is allowed in a wetland.

Prior to site visit by Conservation agent, live trees and dead trees for which removal has been approved should be flagged with tape. Vista corridors within which pruning will occur should be delineated.

Removal of trees is by flush cutting, not digging. Transport of the cut wood or brush to outside of the buffer zone should be by hand, **not** with the use of heavy equipment.

Once completed, vista pruning may be maintained in a consistent manner over time.

### Live trees and dead trees

**Removal** is generally not allowed. Exceptions would be i) express approval of the Conservation Commission or ii) trees hazardous to the house.

**Limbing** of branches is limited to *no more than* 20% on an individual tree.

**Limbing** of dead wood on a live tree counts toward the 20% limit.

**Limbing** of pitch pine is only permitted between October 1 and March 31.

**Topping** is not permitted without express approval.

### Shrubs and bushes

No cutting or thinning allowed *except* of dead material *unless approved by Conservation staff*.

### Ground cover

No disturbance permitted

### Greenbriar and other Climbing Vines

Removal, by hand-pulling or clipping around base of tree, is permitted with staff approval. Chemical treatment requires approval of the Conservation Commission.

